



# Citibank House



1960-62 - Citibank House (formerly T & G Building), 37 Georges terrace, Perth, WA.  
This 68 m building was opened in 1962 as the T & G Building, and was the tallest building in Perth until 1970 when Hamersley House was opened. It underwent a major refurbishment in the 1980s which significantly altered the building's external features. The building adopted its current name when Citibank became its flagship tenant. As of December 2008, the tower was the 26th-tallest completed building in Perth.



The site at the corner of St Georges Terrace and Barrack Street was occupied by hostelries from the colony's earliest days, and later housed the Weld Club. During the Western Australian gold rush in 1897, the Moir Building was constructed on the site. It later became the headquarters for the T & G Mutual Life Assurance Society and was renamed to the T & G Chambers.

The original T & G Chambers were demolished in early 1960, and excavation for the new tower's foundation began in June 1960. The high water table of the site necessitated the use of a raft-type foundation. The 1.2 m) thick foundation was formed by the pour of 970 cubic yards (740 m3) of concrete in one continuous pour, which occurred on 25 September 1960.

After this, a 53 cm concrete retaining wall was poured around the basement levels and the steel frame

of the building was erected. The floors of the building were formed by attaching permanent galvanised iron formwork to the steel frame, adding steel reinforcement mesh and pouring 10 cm of concrete on top.



The building is of a steel frame construction, clad with aluminium, glass and precast aggregate concrete panels. The building is supported by 32 steel columns. The ground floor was clad with black polished granite, and the lobby featured Travertine marble.

The office floors had external sun shades 8.9 cm thick protruding 0.91 m from the side of the building to reduce the heat load of the building during summer. The "fully automatic" lifts which were installed in the building were the most advanced in Australia. A 12 m steel flag pole (incorporating a lightning conductor) was placed on the northern end of the service tower.

When the T & G Building was constructed, there were no plot ratio limits imposed by the City of Perth on multistorey developments, and the building had a plot ratio of approximately 7:1. However, subsequent to the construction, a limit of 5:1 was imposed. As a result, in the 1980s when the tower was already outdated and showing signs of age, the owners found that they would be unable to replace the tower with a new one of a similar size. As a result, a decision was made to extensively refurbish the building.

The roof of the building, which previously featured a small caretaker's flat, was fully enclosed as an extra office floor. Above this, a facade was added bringing all sides of the building to the top of the mechanical penthouse which previously rose several floors above the roof. The window shades above every floor were enlarged and extended outwards from the building, and all window glass was replaced.



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